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Cc: Smith, Paula[Smith.Paula@epa.gov]; Distefano, Nichole[DiStefano.Nichole@epa.gov]; Levine, Carolyn[Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov]; Kluesner, Dave[kluesner.dave@epa.gov]
From: Russo, Rebecca
Sent: Fri 8/21/2015 2:39:40 PM
Subject: FW: For your review

Sorry for the delay in sending these notes:

Notes from 8/17/15 Meeting between Representative Scott Tipton, Darlene Marcus of his staff, David Ostrander, EPA Gold King Mine Response Area Commander, and David Kluesner, EPA Gold King Mine Response Deputy Community Involvement Coordinator.

Overall, Representative Tipton's tone was pleasant and it was a positive meeting. Representative Tipton's office is overall pleased with their coordination with EPA and their relationship with Region 8 RCL, Rebecca Russo. While they expressed concerns about the initial 24 hour lag in notifications by EPA, they are encouraged by our outreach since that time.

David Ostrander provided a general update of what has been happening at the site. Representative Tipton's office raised several issues, concerns and questions, which are outlined below from the congressional inquiry table.

Representative Tipton raised some questions about the Form 95 claim, which were answered by the EPA Release Update EMail on 8/17/15 sent to all congressional contacts, and again specifically answered in a separate email by Rebecca Russo on 8/18/15. This is reflected in the last row of the table. They also offered help to EPA in improving Form 95.

They informed EPA that Representatives Fred Upton and Rob Bishop would be scheduling hearings after Labor Day.

Follow-ups Needed:

Priority:						
1 = 24-48 hours						
2 = 3-5 days						
3 = 7-10 days						
Request #	General Subject(s)	Initial Inquiry Sent to:	Requestor	Question	Relationship to Request #	Notes
New 1	Timeline of Notifications	Representative R. Russo / D. Kluesner	Tipton	Why was there a 24 hour lag in meeting notifications?	5IC	
New 2	D.W. Wells	Representative R. Russo / D. Kluesner	Tipton	Update on the sporadic exceedances on some DW wells.	IC	We don't have a baseline for these wells. They were not previously tested for the same contaminants.
New 3	N/A until more info.	Representative R. Russo / D. Kluesner	Tipton	Ask Darlene if she ever received any additional information on the surface water sample (potentially a pond) with a pH of 9.		We do not have enough information to follow-up on this one, but will need more information from Rep. Tipton's office.
New 4	Photos / Videos	Representative R. Russo / D. Kluesner	Tipton	Video at the time of release	17IC	
New 5	Other Mining Sites	Representative R. Russo / D. Kluesner	Tipton	What other mining sites are we involved with and do we know about the volume of water in them		
New 6	Timeline of Event / What exactly happened and when	Representative R. Russo / D. Kluesner	Tipton	They want additional information explaining how we went into the mine (e.g., from the portal, the top, or the very top.	12 ; new IC 7	Will probably be in the timeline. If not, should be added.
New 7	Timeline of Event / What exactly	Representative R. Russo / D. Kluesner	Tipton	Was there a phone at the site? If not why not?	12 ; new IC 6	Will probably be in the timeline. If not, should be added.

happened Kluesner
and when

New
8

Long- R. Tipton What is EPA's long-
Term Russo /from 8/17 term plan for the site?
Planning D. meeting Specifically, what will IC
Kluesner happen during the
winter months?

RESPONSE:

La Plata County, with the assistance of the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DoLA), and with the cooperation of local, state and federal agencies, will open a Recovery Center in Durango on Tuesday, August 18 and Wednesday, August 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the east end of the La Plata County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall, Main Avenue, Durango Colorado. Staff from local, state and federal agencies noted below will be available to answer questions regarding financial and/or technical assistance related to the Animas River - Gold King Mine release. If you believe that you have suffered an economic loss related to the event, or if you have questions related to water quality, crops or livestock, individuals will be on hand


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1

Claims R.
Russo

Representative
Tipton'sIt is my understanding
staff: that the Form 95 is for
Darlenepersonal loss. Does it
Marcus cover business lost as
well?

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to offer information and/or assistance. Services will be directed toward La Plata County businesses, employees and landowners who have been affected by the Gold King Mine release, and will include:

Environmental Protection Agency-Assistance with Form 95 Claims for Damage for questions concerning loss of income or business.

Rebecca A. Russo

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